

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### Nova/TCB

#### Tennessee Manufacturing Extension Partnership

#### Nova/TCB Achieves TS 16949 Certification

##### Client Profile:

Nova/TCB, located in Powell, Tennessee is a minority-owned assembler of roller bearings that are primarily manufactured in China. Their primary markets include domestic OEM bearing manufacturers, first and second tier automotive suppliers, as well as aftermarket bearing suppliers. The 7-year-old company employs 14 people.

##### Situation:

Nova/TCB has been in a growth mode the past several years. Realizing that continued growth would require TS 16949 certification from their present and future customers, the company approached the Tennessee Manufacturing Extension Partnership (TMEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, concerning assistance with certification.

##### Solution:

The project involved TS 16949 CORE TOOLS training and consultation by a TMEP zero time resource. Six of the top management staff at the company participated in the training, kicking off the project with full commitment.

##### Results:

- \* Achieved TS 16949 certification.
- \* Increased sales by \$6 million.
- \* Retained sales of \$3 million.
- \* Invested \$200,000 in plant equipment.
- \* Relocated to new facility.
- \* Created new jobs.

##### Testimonial:

"We started using the University of Tennessee (TMEP) in the early 1980s. We have found TMEP to be most responsive and practical with their assistance. We will continue to turn to TMEP for all of our outside consulting needs."

Herb Lepper, General Manager